

I showed your letter to the Colonel and Lieutenant Colonel of this regiment, and you will probably hear from both of them, if you have not already done so.

Trusting that you will accept my sincere sympathy, and the continued assurance of my regard, I remain,

Respectfully yours,

(Sgd.) C. L. DEMPSEY,  
Corporal, Engineers."

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Fittingly the last letter given in this record is from the woman Bascom Field was to have married. The contrast is now complete. Son of a minister of God, trained to lead and direct works of peace, betrothed to a good woman equally fitted with him to create an American family, he must die astride the Hindenburg line in the last days of the war, with the German force broken, as he was directing his own men to safety.

The letter from his promised wife follows:

"Four Oaks, N. C.  
December 7, 1918.

DEAR MEB:

I have intended writing you for some time, but school duties have prevented my doing much writing.

I want to tell you I appreciate more than I can say the kind feeling you have for me. I assure you it helps greatly to feel that Bascom's loved ones feel this way toward me. No one can take his place, but certainly his own can come nearest.

His people had grown to be very near to me and I had looked forward to the time when I had hoped to be one of them. His death was a cruel blow to me as I felt all my future happiness was wrapped up in Bascom. I suppose there is nothing for us to do now, but make the best of it.

He died on the field of honor and we can always be proud of him. But I wish it might never have been. Few have fallen who were Bascom's equal, they are few and far between.